

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07

FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 OES-05 STR-04 TRSE-00

FEA-01 SCCT-01 SY-05 /125 W

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R 151620Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2366

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

UNCLAS CARACAS 2938

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: FOREIGN POLICY PORTION OF PRESIDENT PEREZ'S ANNUAL

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

1. IN THE COURSE OF HIS TWO AND ONE HALF HOUR SPEECH TO THE VENEZUELAN CONGRESS ON MARCH 12, WHICH WAS DEVOTED MOSTLY TO ECONOMIC MATTERS (REPORTED SEPARATELY), PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ EMPHASIZED VENEZUELA'S INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY AND SPOKE OF ITS "CLEAR LATIN AMERICAN ALIGNMENT, ITS SOLIDARITY WITH THE THIRD WORLD AND THE DEFINITION OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY WHICH INSPIRES IT." THE HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT PEREZ'S REMARKS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURING THE COURSE OF HIS SPEECH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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--U.S. THE SECRETARY'S VISIT HERE GAVE VENEZUELA THE

OPPORTUNITY TO AFFIRM ITS "INDEPENDENT POSITION." PEREZ ALSO FAVORABLY REFERRED TO THE US. BICENTENNIAL.

--CUBA. WITHOUT MENTIONING CUBA BY NAME, PEREZ EXPRESSED "ABSOLUTE OPPOSITION TO ANY HEMISPHERE COUNTRY INTERVENING NOT ONLY IN THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF THE AREA BUT ALSO IN "EXTRA-CONTINENTAL CONTROVERSIES."

--DISARMAMENT. VENEZUELA EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR PROGRESS IN DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS, ESPECIALLY NUCLEARIZATION. MORE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IS REQUIRED.

--CIEC. "VENEZUELA IS PLAYING THE HONORABLE ROLE OF SPOKESMAN OF THE THIRD WORLD." PEREZ WARNED THAT THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT CONTINUE BLAMING PETROLEUM FOR CAUSING THE PRESENT WORLD ECONOMIC DISEQUILIBRIUM.

--GUYANA. PEREZ WANTS GOOD RELATIONS WITH GUYANA AND THAT THE GOV "HAS RECEIVED WITH SATISFACTION THE STATEMENT SENT VENEZUELA BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF GUYANA THAT GUYANA WILL NOT BE A FACTOR OF DISCORD ON THE CONTINENT, NOR A CENTER OF INTERNATIONAL SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS."

--COLOMBIA. THE BEST RELATIONS EXIST WITH THAT COUNTRY AND EFFORTS CONTINUE TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE DIFERENDO. BUT VENEZUELA WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD AFFECT IT ADVERSELY AND WITHOUT "CLEAR AND COMPLETE NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING." OF THE DECISION.

--BOLIVIA. PEREZ BRIEFLY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR ITS ASPIRATION FOR ACCESS TO THE SEA.

--PANAMA. PEREZ EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH THAT COUNTRY, WHOSE DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID, IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THE HEMISPHERE. PEREZ ALSO REPUDIATED THIS COLONIAL INCLAVE IN THE HEART OF A LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY."

--SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. PEREZ NOTED VENEZUELA'S "SYMPATHY" FOR THE "DEVELOPMENT AND STABILIZING OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS" IN THOSE COUNTRIES.

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--CANADA. PEREZ WELCOMES CANADA'S "INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTINENT."

--TERRORISM. LIKE DRUGS, STATED PEREZ, TERRORISM REQUIRES INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. HE REFERRED TO THE INITIATIVE FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT TAKEN BY HIM AND THE PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA, WHICH, HE SAID, IS BEING PURSUED THROUGH THE "CORRESPONDING CHANNELS."

--INTERNATIONAL CORRUPTION. PEREZ ASKED THE VENEZUELAN CONGRESS "TO TAKE A COHERENT AND DEFINED POSITION SO THAT WE CAN COORDINATE WITH THE GOVERNMENTS AND ATTITUDE AND A RESPONSE... IT IS NECESSARY TO RESPOND WITH SOMETHING MORE SUBSTANTIVE SUCH AS, AMONG OTHER POSSIBILITIES, THE APPLICATION OF A CODE OF CONDUCT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES."

--SELA. PEREZ REITERATED VENEZUELAN SUPPORT FOR THIS ORGANIZATION AND SAID THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FAVORABLE REFERENCE TO IT WAS "IMPORTANT" AND A "FAVORABLE CHANGE."

--AFRICA AND ASIA. PEREZ SAID THE GOV WOULD PUT SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON ITENSIFYING RELATIONS WITH THESE AREAS.
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